

CITY OF BELLEVUE  
CITY COUNCIL

Summary Minutes of Study Session

December 2, 2002  
6:00 p.m.

Council Conference Room  
Bellevue, Washington

PRESENT: Mayor Marshall, Deputy Mayor Degginger, and Councilmembers Creighton, Davidson, Lee, Mosher, and Noble

ABSENT: None.

1. Executive Session

Mayor Marshall opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. and announced recess to Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes to discuss one item of potential litigation and two items of pending litigation. The Study Session resumed at 6:45 p.m. with Mayor Marshall presiding.

2. Study Session

(a) Third Quarter Transportation CIP Update

City Manager Steve Sarkozy asked staff to provide the third quarter Transportation Capital Investment Program (CIP) update. Transportation Director Goran Sparrman briefly highlighted the topics covered in the quarterly report.

David Berg, Transportation Assistant Director for Capital Projects, discussed key findings from the Quarterly Update report. He noted the 2002 Program Summary on page 4, which provides information on expenditures for major program areas (Roadways, Intersections, Walkways/Bikeways, and Maintenance/Minor Capital) through September 30, 2002. Third quarter highlights include a contract award for the 116<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE overlay project. Mr. Berg noted that a federal grant will cover approximately \$300,000 of this \$345,000 contract. Projects completed during the third quarter include the NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Extension and intersection improvements at 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and NE 20<sup>th</sup> Street. After approximately two years, the City received environmental approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the wetland mitigation plan associated with the NE 29<sup>th</sup> Place project.

Mr. Berg described page 6, which compares design phase project budgets to actual expenditures. Page 7 provides a graph comparing construction contract dollar amounts to actual expenditures.

Turning to page 8, Mr. Berg said the 140<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor improvements are essentially complete with minor landscaping to be done. Responding to Mr. Noble, Mr. Sparrman said the cost savings from this project will be reprogrammed to other projects. Mr. Berg recalled that the 148<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE Roadway Improvement project was fully funded with the aid of grant monies, contributions from Bellevue Community College, and savings in other projects. He noted that the apparent \$100,000 deficit in the quarterly report will be corrected once funds are properly accounted for to bring the project budget back into balance.

Responding to Deputy Mayor Degginger, Mr. Sarkozy explained that unspent project funds are temporarily allocated to the CIP Contingency Account. Mr. Sparrman said staff will return during the first quarter of 2003 to update Council on major projects and discuss the reallocation of funds where needed.

Mr. Berg referenced page 13 and said the 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE improvements will be completed by the end of the year. Turning to page 15, Mr. Berg said necessary property acquisitions for the NE 29<sup>th</sup> Place Connection project have been initiated and project bids will be opened on December 10. Staff will request approval to award the construction contract at the January 6 Council meeting. Work has been completed on the wetlands for the Richards Road (SE 26<sup>th</sup> Street to Lake Hills Connector) project. The contractor recently proposed a technique to remove and reuse the existing roadway, which could result in substantial savings on this contract.

Mr. Berg said Phase 2A of the Kamber Road project is currently under construction between 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and 145<sup>th</sup> Place SE. He noted unanticipated project delays and the need to rebuild sections of the roadway. Construction of Factoria Boulevard improvements was initiated in September following lengthy utilities relocations. A new wall design was used to facilitate completion of the project before the holiday shopping season. Mr. Berg said the new design resulted in increased costs but also reduced risk for the City.

Turning to page 19, Mr. Berg said Forest Drive improvements will provide a redesign of the roadway to enhance safety and non-motorized components including a bike lane, sidewalks, and landscaping. A Value Engineering (VE) study was performed in October, which identified a full range of options for addressing environmental and design constraints. These alternatives will be reviewed with the Transportation Commission. A project open house is scheduled for January 15, 2003.

Mr. Berg said the Lake Washington Boulevard non-motorized improvements are currently under construction. He noted the use of an innovative technique to produce attractive and durable walls for this project. Mr. Sarkozy encouraged Councilmembers to stop by the project if they have not yet seen it. Mr. Berg said the project is on time and on budget. The final roadway overlay will be completed in the spring.

Mr. Berg said the SE 8<sup>th</sup> Street reconstruction project was redesigned in the field to avoid the presence of old building debris (primarily wood, no hazardous materials) on the site. Project costs are expected to exceed the contract amount slightly. However, Mr. Berg reported that adjacent property owners agreed to donate portions of their property needed for the project in exchange for receiving the roadway improvements.

Mr. Berg reported on the annual street overlay program. The City paved 35 lane miles this year including 13.5 miles in Bridle Trails and 9 miles in West Lake Hills. The overlay program will focus on East Lake Hills and northeast Bellevue in 2003.

Moving on, Mr. Berg recalled Deputy Mayor Degginger's previous inquiry about the use of consultants. The City's standard is to maintain consultant costs at 15 percent of total contract costs. Mr. Berg reported that comparison consultant costs range from 12 percent of contract costs (City of Snoqualmie) to 19 percent (Washington State Department of Transportation).

Mr. Berg reviewed consultant costs for Bellevue projects between January 1, 2001 and September 30, 2002. The majority of projects fall within the 15-percent standard. However, consultant costs for the 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Improvements project are approximately 24 percent of total construction costs. This project was originally designed as part of the NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street extension but was split into two projects to receive federal funding for the NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street portion. The 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE project experienced cost increases related to right-of-way negotiations with adjacent property owners and coordination with franchise utilities. Consultant costs for the 124<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE project also exceeded the 15-percent standard, primarily due to efforts to accelerate the project's design in response to the community.

Mr. Berg discussed the California Multi-Agency CIP Benchmarking Study, a comparison of design costs as a percentage of total construction costs for several large California jurisdictions and agencies. The study identified approximately 40 best management practices and created a database to monitor each agency's performance on an ongoing basis. The study reveals consultant costs of 19 to 35 percent for street projects, compared to an 18-percent average for City of Bellevue street projects. Mr. Berg said the City is working to further reduce its reliance on consultants over the next few years.

(b) 2000 Census Briefing

Mr. Sarkozy noted that tonight's presentation is one in a series of planned briefings regarding the 2000 federal census information, which is released in segments by the Census Bureau. Additional information will be provided to Council in January.

Planning Director Dan Stroh said the census data was collected in April 2000. Citywide data was released in mid-2001 and more detailed information was provided earlier this year. Staff is preparing a series of reports to be made available to the community with the first to be published by the end of this year. The Census Bureau will release the remainder of the data next year.

Kevin O'Neill, Strategic Planning Manager, said the data to be presented tonight focuses on the city as a whole and its comparison within the region. Bellevue's population in 2000 was 109,000 and its growth rate has been steady over the past three decades. Half of the population growth that occurred in the 1990s was due to annexations. The current population is 117,000. Household size decreased somewhat between 1990 and 2000 from 2.41 to 2.37 persons per household. Mr. O'Neill said the largest decrease occurred during the 1970s when the average household size decreased by nearly one person. Bellevue had 45,836 households in 2000. The

most common household types were married couples without children (32 percent) and single persons (28 percent). Between 1990 and 2000, single-person households grew the most reflecting a 40-percent increase.

Mr. O'Neill reviewed Bellevue's age distribution:

	<u>Percent of population</u>
Preschool (0-4)	6
Senior Citizens (65+)	13
Age 5-17	15
Age 45-64	25
Age 18-44	41

While overall population grew by 26 percent between 1990 and 2000, Bellevue's senior population grew significantly as follows:

	<u>1990-2000 Growth Rate</u>
Age 65 to 74	30.8%
Age 75 to 84	126.7%
Age 85 and over	113.5%

The population aged 5 to 14 also grew faster than the overall population increase at approximately 30 percent.

Mr. O'Neill noted that Bellevue's senior citizens aged 65 and older represent 13.4 percent of the local population while nationally the same age group represents 12.4 percent of the population. Seniors aged 65 and over are projected to represent 20 percent of the national population by 2045.

Mr. O'Neill reviewed racial characteristics for Bellevue and noted the increase in Asian and Hispanic populations. He noted that 24.5 percent of Bellevue's population in 2000 was foreign-born residents, and nearly half of these residents were born in an Asian country. Of Bellevue residents aged 5 and over, 26.9 percent speak a language other than English at home. Bellevue's growth in its non-English-speaking population exceeded that of King County, Seattle, and the nation as a whole. Mr. O'Neill said 25 percent of Bellevue's residents in 2000 lived outside of King County in 1995.

Mr. Stroh noted the time and suggested providing the second part of the presentation at a later date. He summarized that Bellevue's population grew by 26 percent during the 1990s, which affects the demand for and delivery of City services. He reviewed the increase in single-person households and the city's aging population. Although the percentage of children remained constant throughout the 1990s, the overall number of children increased proportionately with the population. Bellevue has experienced a significant broadening of its racial and ethnic diversity, highlighting the need to better understand cultural differences within the community. Racial and ethnic minorities tend to be younger than the overall population.

Councilmember Lee noted past controversy over statistical adjustments to census data and the suspected undercounting of some segments of the population. Mr. Stroh acknowledged there have been lawsuits over the use of census data and offered to research the issue.

3. Discussion Item

- (a) Update on Public Safety Technology Projects  
*(Agreement with ARINC for purchase of wireless data communications system is scheduled for Council action on December 9, 2002.)*

[This item was postponed.]

At 7:57 p.m., Mayor Marshall declared recess to the Regular Session.

Myrna L. Basich  
City Clerk

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